

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-14 USIA-12 RSR-01 /115 W
----- 038062

R 280153 Z MAR 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7190

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA CITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1071

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, PN, YO

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IN PANAMA- YUGOSLAVIAN ROLE

REF: (A) USUN 820; MEXICO 1652

1. DISTINCTLY UNHELPFUL ROLE OF YUGOSLAV MISSION IN PANAMA SC MEETING WAS APPARENT EVEN BEFORE MEETING CONVENED. PERMREP MOJSOV VISITED GUYANA, JAMAICA AND MEXICO BEFORE MEETING. IN GEORGETOWN AND KINGSTON WE KNOW THAT HE URGED THOSE GOVERNMENTS TO SEND THEIR FON MINS TO PANAMA. HIS INTERVENTION PROBABLY DECISIVE IN GEORGETOWN AND MAY HAVE BEEN EQUALLY SO IN KINGSTON. WHAT HE DID IN MEXICO CITY WAS ALLEDGEDLY UNRELATED TO PANAMA, BUT GOM MOVED FROM FIRM DECISION NOT TO ATTEND AFTER MOJSOV VISIT.

2. DURING COURSE OF MEETING BASED ON USUAL RATIONALE OF SEEKING COMPROMISE SUPPOSEDLY ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES YUGOSLAVS CONCEDED SO MUCH TO PANAMANIAN POSITION AT OUTSET THAT MORE MODERATE RESOLUTION OR ATTITUDE ACCEPTABLE TO US WAS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE. IN ANY EVENT YUGOSLAV ROLE OF MEDIATOR IS SELF- GENERATED ONE.

3. YUGOSLAVS WERE ACTIVE ON SUBSTANCE RIGHT FROM START AND THEIR STARTING POSITION WAS NOT A FAVORABLE ONE FOR US. MOJSOV HAD MORE CONVERSATIONS WITH TORRIJOS THAN ANY OTHER
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PERMREP AS FAR AS WE KNOW. AS A RESULT HE CONTINUALLY STRESSED TO USDEL AND OTHERS (WITHOUT EXPRESSING DISAPPROBATION)

THAT TORRIJOS CAPABLE OF ENGAGING IN VIOLENCE AGAINST CANAL ZONE AND URGED THAT US HAD TO GIVE PANAMA APPROPRIATE CONCESSIONS. MOJSOV CLAIMED CREDIT FOR PERSUADING PANAMANIAN DELEGATION TO TABLE ONLY ONE OF ORIGINAL THREE RESES ON CANAL BUT WE TEND DISCOUNT IT BECAUSE WE CONVINCED THAT OTHER NON- PERM SC MEMBERS WOULD HAVE BOGGLED AT TRYING TO NEGOTIATE TWO MORE RESOLUTIONS AFFECTING US VITAL INTERESTS.

4. EVEN BEFORE VOTE ON CANAL RESOLUTION WE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT, IN CASE OF US VETO, YUGOSLAVIA WAS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR INITIATIVE, WHICH WAS NEVER FORMALIZED, EITHER TO PUT CANAL ON 28 TH GA AGENDA OR, UNDER RULE 8 (B) OF GA RULES OF PROCEDURE, CONVENE EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION OF GA. WE WERE ALSO TOLD BY MEMBERS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS THAT YUGOSLAIVA HAD ACTIVELY ENCOURAGED PANAMA TO PURSUE MATTER IN GA.

5. CULMINATING EVENT IN PANAMA WAS YUGOSLAV EXPLANATION OF VOTE IN WHICH MOJSOV CASTIGATED US VETO AND PLEDGED ASSISTANCE TO SMALL COUNTRIES UNTIL TIME OF " FAIRNESS AND GENEROSITY" ARRIVES. DEPARTING FROM UNANIMOUS RULE OF LA SPEAKERS, EVEN INCLUDING PANAMANIAN, MOJSOV DID NOT CALL FOR BILATERAL US- PANAMA NEGOTIATIONS. THIS FAILURE, COUPLED WITH HIS FAVORABLE ALLUSION TO INCREASED LIBERATION MOVEMENT ACTIVITY IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA AFTER UK VETO ON RHODESIA AT ADDIS SC MEETING AND STATEMENT THAT PANAMANIAN SHOULD CONSIDER US VETO " A CHALLENGE IN THEIR JUST STRUGGLE", MAKES MOJSOV STATEMENT READ (IN CONTEXT PRESENT SITUATION PANAMA) LIKE INCITMENT TO VIOLENCE. (FULL TEXT MOJSOV STATEMENT FOLLOW SEPTTEL.)

6. WHEN MEMBER OF USDEL REMONSTRATED WITH COUNSELLOR JOB- WHO WROTE MOJSOV' S REMARKS-- JOB SAID IT WAS GOOD SPEECH, YUGOSLAVIA HAD BEEN ABLE TO ELICIT VETO (CF. BELGRADE 1197) AND US HAD BROUGHT RESULT ON ITSELF. TOOK SATISFACTION IN FACT THAT US VETO FORCED CANAL PROBLEM INTO INTERNATIONAL FORUM. WHEN, LATER, MOJSOV APPROACHED HIM TO SAY THINGS HAD WORKED OUT WELL AMB. BENNETT STRENUOUSLY OBJECTED TO CONTENTS YUGOSLAV EXPLANATION OF VOTE AND MOJSOV RETIRED HASTILY IN HURT CONFUSION.
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7. THIS IS NOT FIRST TIME YUGOSLAV ACTIVISM HAS BEEN DETRIMENTAL TO OUR INTERESTS. EVEN IN ECOSOC AREA THEIR ACTIVITIES HAVE IN SEVERAL RECENT INSTANCES BEEN UNHELPFUL AND, ON OCCASION, ACTUALLY IN CONTRADICTION TO EARLIER ASSURANCES AND UNDERSTANDINGS. DURING NEGOTIATIONS ON RECENT SC RES CONCERNING ZAMBIAN COMPLAINT YUGOSLAVS WERE EARLY AND ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN DRAFTING AND MADE NO EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND OR REFLECT US CONCERNS.

8. YUGOSLAVIA IS LARGELY MOTIVATED BY PRESUMING TO PLAY LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THIRD WORLD AND NON- ALIGNED GROUP. DESPITE MOJSOV' S REMARKS TO AMB. SCALI (USUN 820) YUGOSLAVIA DOES WORK HARD FOR NON- ALIGNED BLOC VOTING, AT LEAST ON OCCASION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT PRC REMONSTRATED STRONGLY OVER YUGOSLAV ACTIVIST ROLE IN 27 TH GA ACTION ON BANGLADESH AS BEING INIMICAL TO IMPORTANT CHINESE INTEREST AND THAT YUGOSLAVS DEMONSTRATED GREATER PRUDENCE THEREAFTER.

9. RECOMMENDATION: ALTHOUGH PANAMA EXPERIENCE WAS MOST RECENT AND PERHAPS MOST BLATANT EXAMPLE OF YUGOSLAV TENDENCY TO DISREGARD US VIEWS AND DESIRES, IT FOLLOWS PATTERN. MOREOVER, IN THIS CASE IT WAS AIMED AT DIRECT AND IMPORTANT INTEREST IN CONTIGUOUS AREA TO WHICH US ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE.

10. WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT SUITABLY FIRM DEMARCHES IN BELGRADE, WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK ARE NOW REQUIRED. OUT EXPERIENCE IN PANAMA IS IDEAL BASIS ON WHICH TO DO SO.

11. WE SUGGEST FOLLOWING POINTS SHOULD BE MADE:

1) WE FEEL, AND ARE PERHAPS REMISS FOR NOT HAVING SAID SO SOONER, THAT YUGOSLAVS IN UN CONTEXT HAVE EXCEEDED LIMITS OF DISREGARD FOR OUR INTERESTS WHICH WE WOULD EXPECT THEM TO OBSERVE, IN VIEW IMPORTANCE THEY SAY THEY ATTACH TO GOOD US- YUGOSLAV RELATIONS.

2) IN ABSENCE OF YUGOSLAV INTERESTS IN CARIBBEAN, CENTRAL AND LATIN AMERICAN AREA, WHICH YUGOSLAVS KNOW ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO US, WE BELIEVE IT HIGHLY INAPPROPRIATE FOR THEM ACTIVELY TO HAVE PLAYED PANAMANIAN
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GAME IN ENCOURAGING HIGH- LEVEL ATTENDANCE FROM THIS AREA TO SC MEETING.

3) IN REGARD TO SUBSTANCE OF ISSUE WHICH VITALLY IMPORTANT TO USG WE TAKE VERY DIM VIEW OF YUGOSLAV INTER- FERENCE WITHOUT ADEQUATE CONSULTATION WITH USDEL OR ACCURATE REFLECTION US POSITION.

4) WE OBJECT STRONGLY TO STATEMENTS WHICH IGNORE POSSIBILITIES FOR PACIFIC SETTLEMENT AND ENCOURAGE RESORT TO VIOLENCE OR FORCE, IN THIS INSTANCE, AGAINST US INSTALL A- TION.

12. SUBSTANCE OF THIS MESSAGE WAS DISCUSSED WITH AMBS. SCALI AND BENNETT WHO FULLY CONCUR.
SCHAUFEE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973USUNN01071
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: USUN NY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730347/abqcdxyf.tel
Line Count: 164
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) USUN 820; MEXICO 1652
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Oct-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <15-Oct-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IN PANAMA- YUGOSLAVIAN ROLE
TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, PN, YO
To: STATE INFO BELGRADE
PANAMA CITY
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005